



# Brownfields 2008 Grant Fact Sheet

## Tacoma, WA

### EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under this law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. The brownfields job training grants provide residents of communities impacted by brownfields with the skills and training needed to effectively gain employment in assessment and cleanup activities associated with brownfield redevelopment and environmental remediation. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

### Community Description

The City of Tacoma was selected to receive a job training grant. Located on the southern tip of Puget Sound, Tacoma is targeting low-income residents of Pierce County who live near concentrations of former gas station sites as identified by the Tacoma-Pierce



### Job Training Grant

**\$200,000**

EPA has selected the City of Tacoma for a job training grant. Tacoma plans to train 60 students over a two-year period, place 42 graduates in environmental jobs, and track them for one year. The training program will consist of four, 200-hour training cycles comprising coursework in HAZWOPER; OSHA safety; asbestos, lead, mold, and heavy metal awareness; confined space awareness; underground storage tanks; and environmental chemistry and sampling. Primary trainers will be certified instructors using facilities provided, in-kind, by cooperative partner Clover Park Technical College. Students will be recruited from among low-income residents of Pierce County communities that are impacted by brownfields. Tacoma will work with the Metropolitan Development Council to recruit and screen students and ensure their graduation and placement.

### Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: [www.epa.gov/brownfields](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields).

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<http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/CLEANUP.NSF/sites/bf>

Grant Recipient: Tacoma, WA  
253-594-7933

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

County Health Department through its 2007 assessment grant. Nearly 28 percent of the 224,484 individuals living in these areas are minorities, and more than

12 percent live in poverty. The targeted areas have an average of 28.7 brownfields per 10,000 residents, as compared to only 1.9 brownfields per 10,000 residents in surrounding areas. A recent Pierce County employment analysis lists hazardous materials removal workers as an employer need, with one of the highest average annual growth rates (3.6 percent) of any field and over 50 new openings each year in the region.